



Apple Tree Farm Services CIC

Allergy and Anaphylaxis Policy

Policy Statement

Apple Tree Farm Services CIC is committed to providing a safe and inclusive environment for children and young people with allergies. We recognise that allergic reactions can occur unexpectedly and that anaphylaxis is a potentially life-threatening medical emergency.



This policy has been developed following the Department for Education's Allergy Safety in Schools statutory guidance (2026) and the principles commonly referred to as Benedict's Law.

Identifying and Managing Allergies

Parents/carers and commissioners must inform Apple Tree Farm of any known allergy before a child begins attending and provide details of allergens, previous reactions, prescribed medication and emergency treatment.

Children with a diagnosed significant allergy will have an Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP) and/or Allergy Action Plan, developed with parents/carers and relevant healthcare professionals where appropriate. This will identify the child's allergens, symptoms, medication and actions required in an emergency.

All allergy information will be communicated appropriately to staff working with the child while respecting confidentiality.

Reducing the Risk of Exposure

Reasonable steps will be taken to minimise exposure to known allergens across the farm, including during cooking, food preparation, animal care, horticulture, community activities and off-site visits.

Food labels and ingredients will be checked carefully and appropriate measures taken to reduce cross-contamination. Children will not be encouraged to share food. Where food is prepared or provided, allergen information will be available, and dietary requirements will be taken into account.

Apple Tree Farm cannot guarantee an entirely allergen-free environment. Our approach is therefore based upon individual risk assessment, education, vigilance and effective emergency response rather than relying solely upon blanket allergen bans.

Staff Training

Staff will receive appropriate allergy-awareness and emergency-response training. This will include recognising the signs of an allergic reaction and anaphylaxis, understanding individual



Allergy Action Plans, knowing where emergency medication is located and understanding how and when to administer an adrenaline auto-injector (AAI).

Relevant information will also be included within staff induction and refreshed regularly. The DfE's 2026 guidance specifically requires whole-staff allergy awareness and emergency-response training for schools within its statutory scope.

Medication and Adrenaline Auto-Injectors

Parents/carers remain responsible for ensuring that prescribed medication supplied for their child is in date, clearly labelled and available while the child attends Apple Tree Farm.

Prescribed adrenaline auto-injectors must be stored safely but remain readily accessible in an emergency.

In line with the principles of Benedict's Law and current DfE allergy-safety guidance, Apple Tree Farm will also maintain appropriate spare, in-date adrenaline auto-injectors for emergency use, subject to the applicable requirements governing their purchase, storage and administration. Spare AAIs do not replace a child's own prescribed medication.

Emergency Response

If anaphylaxis is suspected, staff will:

Administer an adrenaline auto-injector without delay in accordance with the child's plan/training.

Call 999 immediately and state that anaphylaxis is suspected.

Follow emergency guidance and administer a further dose of adrenaline if indicated and available.

Contact the child's parent/carer.

Remain with and monitor the child until emergency medical assistance arrives.

Staff should not delay emergency treatment while attempting to contact parents/carers.

Incidents and Near Misses

All significant allergic reactions, administration of adrenaline and allergy-related near misses will be recorded and reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead/management team and parents/carers.

Following an incident or near miss, Apple Tree Farm will review what happened, identify any learning and amend the child's plan, risk assessment or organisational procedures where necessary. Recording and learning from serious incidents and near misses is specifically included within the DfE's new allergy-safety framework.

Shared Responsibility



Effective allergy management requires partnership between Apple Tree Farm, the child or young person, parents/carers, commissioners and healthcare professionals. Children will be supported, according to their age and ability, to understand their allergies, recognise symptoms, communicate when they feel unwell and develop increasing confidence in managing their own health.

Policy Review: Annually, or sooner following a significant allergy incident, change in legislation or updated government guidance.

Date last reviewed: 15/09/2026

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Blenard'.

Farm Manager